

The Embassy of the Republic of Argentina ... has the honor to refer to an extremely troublesome deed. K

The Argentine Embassy has taken note of the participation by the Assistant Secretary for ~~HR~~ HR and HA, Patricia Derian, in a seminar on "Torture in Argentina", which the Fund for Free Expression will hold November 6 in New York. The panel will also include Robert Cox and Jacobo Timmerman.

This Embassy wishes to point out that the same Asst. Secy. cast prejudicial concepts at the Argentine Government in a speech in Miami <sup>Oct</sup> ~~November~~ 7.

In the Embassy's judgment, the participation of that same high official of the State Department in a meeting, whose title alone indicates the perimeters within which the meeting will unfold, represents a new interference which does <sup>not</sup> ~~lend~~ itself to a positive evolution of relations between both countries which was particularly evident throughout 1980.

Testifying before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on April 16, 1980, Asst. Secy. Bowdler, sketched out this evolution in pointing out:

"There exists indications that Argentina has begun to heal itself, after the drawn out trauma provoked by terrorism and by the shattering of its political system." At the same time, in another part of his testimony, Bowdler emphasized the necessity of the U.S. cooperating actively with its neighbors in the Hemisphere.

The Argentine Embassy considers for this reason that Ms. Derian's participation in the seminar, in view of her previous public statements regarding the Government of Argentina, is incompatible with the policy of cooperation and understanding which both countries have been progressively strengthening.

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ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

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